

SECRET

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Tape: D.C.I.-40
Side: A
Start: 0

DRAFT/DCI
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NOTE: DRAFT - POSSIBLE REDRAFT OR INSERTION IN WORLDWIDE BRIEFING on the SOVIET UNION

I. 1978 was a year of greater commitment for the Soviets

- A. Their commitment to Ethiopia and resultant loss of their former position in Somalia.
- B. Their further commitment to Vietnam with her joining ^{CEMA and} ~~Cema~~ ^{consigning} ~~ASEAN~~ ^{Asian} nations with the prospect of ^{having to} choosing between Cambodia and the PRC or Vietnam and the Soviet Union. *
- C. Their following up on the April coup in Afghanistan with a public commitment in December through a treaty of friendship which aroused further concern in an India that was already working away slowly from the full warmth of its Soviet relationship.
- D. Their following up on the blank coup in South Yemen with operational use of air and naval facilities there aroused concerns in Saudi Arabia and North Yemen.
- E. They failed to induce the post Mao leadership into any form of reconciliation; rather, the Chinese strove to isolate the Soviets wherever they could; with a treaty of _____ with Japan; with a visit of Premier Hua ~~(2)~~ to Romania;
 - 1. China's economic opening to the West, including a quest to purchase military weapons, placed the Soviets at odds with Western arms suppliers.
 - 2. US-Chinese normalization

(GO BACK TO Paragraph B & add in)

*and this commitment to Vietnam resulted in their ally North Korea voting against Vietnam in the United Nations.

II. For the Soviets it was also a year of learning to project military force overseas.

- A. They learned that the availability of weapons in the Soviet Union and their ability to transport them by air rapidly was an effective response to the perceived needs of nations like Ethiopia for support when their security was endangered.

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- B. They further learned that previous use of Cuban surrogates in Angola was readily ~~transferred in large quantities of effectiveness to~~ and quickly transferred in large quantities of effectiveness to new scenes as in Ethiopia.
- C. We estimate that this learning has left the Soviets with a sense of hubris which may well tempt them to similar actions in the future.

III. 1978 was also a year of detente for the Soviets

- A. They came very close by years end to consummating a SALT II Agreement with the United States.
- B. They entered into or continued Arms Limitations negotiations on six other fronts.

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